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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Lori Wells, Manager

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Subject: All About Those Roundabouts

Fife Lake – Roundabouts versus traffic lights have always been an argumentative topic between drivers. From an engineers’ perspective, better can be defined by the cost, traffic flow and safety of roundabouts.

In a roundabout there are no traffic signals or stop signs. Over the long term, roundabouts are \$5000 – \$10,000 cheaper per year than a traffic light, as there are no electrical costs involved.

Contrary to many peoples' perceptions, roundabouts actually move traffic through an intersection more quickly and with less congestion on approaching roads.

Drivers yield at entry to traffic in the roundabout, then enter the intersection and exit at their desired street. Studies by the Federal Highway Administration have found that not only are roundabouts safer, they can also increase traffic capacity from 30 to 50 percent compared to traditional intersections.

Want to learn more about the Fife Lake roundabout on US-131, slated for construction in the spring of 2019? Join officials from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) on Wednesday, April 17, 12:30 p.m., at the Fife Lake Public Library, 77 Lakecrest Lane, for a discussion on them and then a question answering session. Hear how the roundabout will improve traffic safety at the M-189/State Street and US-131 intersection, along with a basic overview of properly navigating a roundabout.

The discussion about the roundabout is free. An optional lunch is served at noon for a \$3 suggested donation for those 60 and over, \$5 for all others. Advanced registration for both the lunch and presentation is required by Friday, April 12 by calling the Fife Lake Library at 231-879-4101.

For more information email dmikowski@grandtraverse.org or call 231-879-4101 to register.

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The Senior Center Network, part of the Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation Department, offers diverse programs to older adults in Grand Traverse County. Thousands each year enjoy dozens of activities on a daily basis at locations in Traverse City, Acme, Fife Lake, Interlochen, and Kingsley. Business hours are Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 231-922-4911, or visit www.grandtraverse.org/scn or our Facebook page.